

1 | **Appomattox Town Council**
Workshop Meeting
August 26, 2025

The Appomattox Town Council held a Workshop Meeting on Tuesday, August 26, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. at the Appomattox Municipal Building, 210 Linden Street, Appomattox, Virginia with Mayor Conner, presiding.

Members present: James J. Boyce, Sr., Timothy W. Garrett, McKinley Cardwell, Jack Hensley, Nathan Simpson, and Mary Lou Spiggle

Others present: Michael Campbell, Town Manager; Robert Fowler, Director of Community Development and Planning; Dianne Tanner, Deputy Town Clerk; Christy Torrence, Office Manager; Carlton Duck, Alive Media

Mayor Conner called the Workshop meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Public Hearing

Mayor Conner read to the record the two items listed on the Workshop Meeting Agenda for public hearing:

- (a) A proposed amendment to §36-281 of the Town Code, such provision relating to permitted uses in the B-1 Less Intense Use Business District, to add the following as a permitted use in such district: single-family residential existing prior to August 12, 2013, provided that any expansion of the building footprint must comply with the setbacks of the R-2 Zoning District.
- (b) Proposed amendments to Chapter 36, Article XIV, "Floodplain District" of the Town Code, to update the current ordinance to comply with statutory and regulatory changes and with directives from the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, including without limitation establishing Flood Plain Districts, requiring the issuance of permits for development, and providing factors and conditions for variances to the terms of the ordinances.

After reading the two items for Public Hearing into the record, Mayor Conner then opened the floor for any public comment. There were no attendees that offered public comments on the two items. Mayor Conner gavelled the public hearing closed.

Discussion Items

Mayor Conner read into the record item 2 of the Discussion Items listed on the Workshop Meeting Agenda: Consideration to approve \$6561.24 in additional funding requested by the Sheriff for upfitting the vehicle purchased by the town.

Councilmember Garrett made a motion to approve the \$6561.24 in additional funding, seconded by Councilmember Spiggle. Mayor Conner called for any discussion of the item among Council. There was no further discussion, and this item was presented for a Roll Call Vote: Boyce: yes, Cardwell-yes, Garrett-yes, Hensley-yes, Simpson-yes, Spiggle-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

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Mayor Conner read into the record Discussion Item 3 listed on the Workshop Meeting Agenda: Discussion of MOU regarding Sheriff's Department and Town funding.

The Town Manager, Michael Campbell, briefed Council on the information contained on the Town Council Action Form (CAF) and the proposed attached Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), and Sheriff Robert N. Richardson addressed Council with his comments regarding this item.

Councilmember Simpson made a motion to accept the Memorandum of Understanding between the Town of Appomattox and the Appomattox County Sheriff's Department, with all Councilmembers present voting aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Closed Session:

By a motion by Councilmember Cardwell, seconded by Councilmember Spiggle, Council voted to convene in a Closed Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1, of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended, for the purpose of assignment, appointment, promotion, performance, or resignation of a specific public officer, appointee, or employee of any public body, specifically being Appointee A. Council went into Closed Session on a Roll Call Vote: Cardwell-yes, Boyce-yes, Garrett-yes, Hensley-yes, Simpon-yes, Spiggle-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

The Deputy Town Clerk read into the record the statement that to the best of each member's knowledge, the only subjects just discussed or considered in the preceding closed meeting were those: (i) lawfully exempted from the Freedom of Information Act's open meeting requirements and (ii) properly identified in the motion that convened the closed meeting, pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711(A)1, of the Code of Virginia, 1950, as amended. Upon a Motion by Councilmember Spiggle, seconded by Vice-Mayor Timothy Garrett, the same was called for a Roll Call Vote: Boyce-yes, Cardwell-yes, Garret-yes, Hensley-yes, Simpson-yes, Spiggle-yes. Motion carried 6-0.

Staff Reports:

The Town Manager, Mr. Campbell, gave an update on staffing. The Town offered and the gentleman has accepted the position of Facilities Supervisor. The start date for the employee is September 2, 2025. The Human Resources contractor, Don Marr, is wrapping up reviews of the part-time Human Resources applicants and Town staff is on schedule to interview prospective candidates by the end of next week.

The Treasurer, Kimberley Ray, presented Council with a financial status report which was included in Council's packet.

Council Comments:

Councilmember Spiggle- I don't have anything to add tonight.

Councilmember Simpson- Just one thing. Mr. Boyce, Mr. Cardwell, and I were in attendance at the last Board of Supervisor's meeting, and there was a comment directed towards Mr. Boyce and I as perspective candidates for the Board where the Chairman referred to our body as a circus and I think I can probably speak on behalf of everyone here but that's a very disappointing thing to hear from what's supposed to be our strongest community partner in that we are a subdivision of Appomattox County. So, it is my hope that we can have a better relationship with the County moving forward, but with rhetoric like that coming from their star position that's going to be very difficult, and I think it is an uphill battle, but we have to continue to work towards it and I'm still hopeful we can have a joint meeting. I don't know if that's reciprocated from the Board but that is our job and the mandate from the voters is to give them the best possible representation. So, hopefully that opinion can change. I don't know if it will change with that person, but hopefully the official opinion of the County is certainly not that the Town is a circus. And that is all I have.

Councilmember Hensley- I am good.

Councilmember Garrett-I am good.

Councilmember Cardwell-I had the privilege of seeing Mr. Richard C. Harwood over at the library and it was a wonderful presentation. So, if you ever get the chance to look into his work, he has done wonders for both towns and counties across the USA in his past 30 years. One of the things we were talking about was basically how we are handling certain catalysts, and I said, typically, the time when the Town and County and the people unite, sadly, occurs when things go bad. And it is because, if a tornado and there is a lot of devastation that's the time we come together. If there is a person that we absolutely love who becomes sick with cancer and everything, that is the time when we coalesce. We are just trying to find ways to bring people together, even in good times. So, I would encourage Council to look him up. Look up "The New Civic Path" and try to figure out ways we can get our community activated so that we don't have to come together only during the bad times.

Councilmember Boyce-I have nothing.

Adjournment:

By a Motion from Vice-Mayor Garrett, seconded by Councilmember Spiggle, the Council voted to adjourn at 7:55 p.m. All members present voting aye. Motion carried 6-0.

Dianne Tanner, Deputy Town Clerk

Richard C. Conner, Mayor